AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method ~~for supporting a broadcast service~~, comprising:

for ~~each of~~ a ~~plurality of~~ customers of ~~the~~ a broadcast service, determining, by executing server software, predicted content that the customer's client software is expected to acquire from the service on behalf of the customer, based on (1) billing information for the customer received from the customer's client software and that describes previously broadcast content acquired by the client software on behalf of the customer, and (2) a description of available content that will be available for broadcast by the service and that can be acquired by the plurality of customers' client software, wherein one or more vectors describe the predicted content;

~~determining which of the one or more vectors that describe the predicted content are not valuable for predicting the preferences of the plurality of customers;~~ and

~~no longer using the determined not valuable vectors to describe the predicted content~~

removing vectors from the one or more vectors that have a reference count lower than a determined value, wherein the removed vectors are determined to not be valuable for describing the predicted content.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the available content includes digital movies that can be watched by the customers.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the available content includes digital audio recordings that can be listened to by the customers.

4. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein the billing information is taken from one or more billing logs received from the customer's client software and that identify the customer, the previously broadcast movies acquired by the client software on behalf of the customer, and the fraction of each acquired movie that was actually played back as determined by the client software.

5. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein the predicted content for each customer is determined by performing an algorithm in the server software that computes the relevance of one or more categories in which a movie can be placed to what the client software can acquire from the service on behalf of the customer, based on a description of the previously broadcast content identified in the billing information and that includes the one or more categories for each previously broadcast movie.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein the predicted content for each customer is determined by further performing an algorithm in the server software that selects from among

the available content a predicted movie whose one or more categories match the most relevant

categories that were computed on behalf of the customer.

7. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture comprising: a machine-readable medium

having a plurality of instructions stored therein which when executed by a processor cause an

electronic system to support a broadcast service by determining, for ~~each of~~ a ~~plurality of~~

customers of the broadcast service, predicted content that the customer's client software is

expected to acquire from the service on behalf of the customer, based on (1) billing

information for the customer received from the customer's client software and that describes

previously broadcast content acquired by the client software on behalf of the customer, and

(2) a description of available content that will be available for broadcast by the service and

that can be acquired by the plurality of customers' client software, wherein one or more

vectors describe the predicted content, ~~by determining which of the one or more vectors that~~

~~describe the predicted content are not valuable for predicting the preferences of the plurality~~

~~of customers; and by no longer using the determined not valuable vectors to describe the~~

~~predicted content~~ and by removing vectors from the one or more vectors that have a reference

count lower than a determined value, wherein the removed vectors are determined to not be

valuable for describing the predicted content.

8. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 7 wherein the available content includes

digital movies that can be watched by the customers.

9. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 7 wherein the available content includes

digital audio recordings that can be listened to by the customers.

10. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 8 wherein the billing information is to be

taken from one or more billing logs received from the customer's client software and that

identify the customer, the previously broadcast movies acquired by the client software on

behalf of the customer, and the fraction of each demanded movie that was actually played

back as determined by the client software.

11. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 8 wherein the predicted content for each

customer can be determined by performing an algorithm that computes the relevance of one

or more categories in which a movie can be placed to what the client software can acquire

from the service on behalf of the customer, based on a description of the previously broadcast

content identified in the billing information and that includes the one or more categories for

each previously broadcast movie.

12. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 11 wherein the predicted content for each

customer can be determined by further performing an algorithm that selects from among the

available content a predicted movie whose one or more categories match the most relevant

categories that were computed on behalf of the customer.

13. (Currently Amended) A system for supporting a broadcast service, comprising:

a server to determine, for each of a plurality of customers of the broadcast service,

predicted content that the customer's client software is expected to acquire from the service on

behalf of the customer, based on (1) billing information for the customer received from the

customer's client software and that describes previously broadcast content acquired by the

client software on behalf of the customer, and (2) a description of available content that will

be available for broadcast by the service and that can be acquired by the plurality of

customers' client software, wherein one or more vectors describe the predicted content, the

server to ~~determine which of the one or more vectors that describe the predicted content are~~

~~not valuable for predicting the preferences of the plurality of customers, and the server to no~~

~~longer use the determined not valuable vectors to describe the predicted content~~ remove

vectors from the one or more vectors that have a reference count lower than a determined

value, wherein the removed vectors are determined to not be valuable for describing the

predicted content.

14. (Original) The system of claim 13 wherein the available content includes digital movies

that can be watched by the customers.

15. (Original) The system of claim 13 wherein the available content includes digital audio

recordings that can be listened to by the customers.

16. (Original) The system of claim 14 wherein the billing information is to be taken from one

or more billing logs received from the customer's client software and that identify the

customer, the previously broadcast movies acquired by the client software on behalf of the

customer, and the fraction of each demanded movie that was actually played back as

determined by the client software.

17. (Original) The system of claim 14 wherein the server is to further perform an algorithm

that computes the relevance of one or more categories in which a movie can be placed to what

the client software can acquire from the service on behalf of the customer, based on a

description of the previously broadcast content identified in the billing information and that

includes the one or more categories for each previously broadcast movie.

18. (Original) The system of claim 17 wherein the server is to further perform an algorithm

that selects from among the available content a predicted movie whose one or more categories

match the most relevant categories that were computed on behalf of the customer.